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スカイブルー

第1話 空色エンカウンター

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BROUGHT TO YOU BY
Japanzai

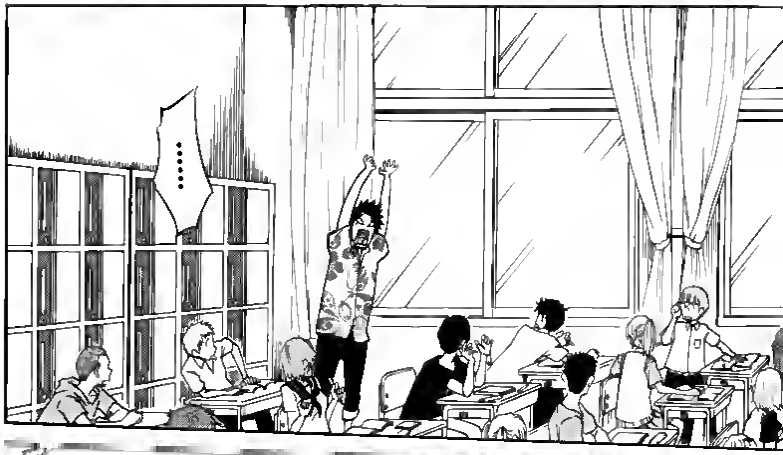
BLUE SKY?
.....
NOT THIS AGAIN.
WHY AM I GLIDING ANY WAY?
What do you think of
your newly reborn psychological world?

Don't you think it's a perfect match for the color sky blue?
You should be glad.
I thought you wouldn't appear for a while, but you're still here after all!
Of course.
Don't step on my back!
You meant it literally

You're so silly.
Did you think that I appeared to solve your emotional problems?
You're so annoying!
That's why I'm here.
I want to know what I am.
until you get tired of it.
I can praise you
I'm going to praise you
So now
!?
But I do acknowledge the courage it took to risk your life to save Anne Haioka.
Congratulations.
110千

FOR NO REASON!

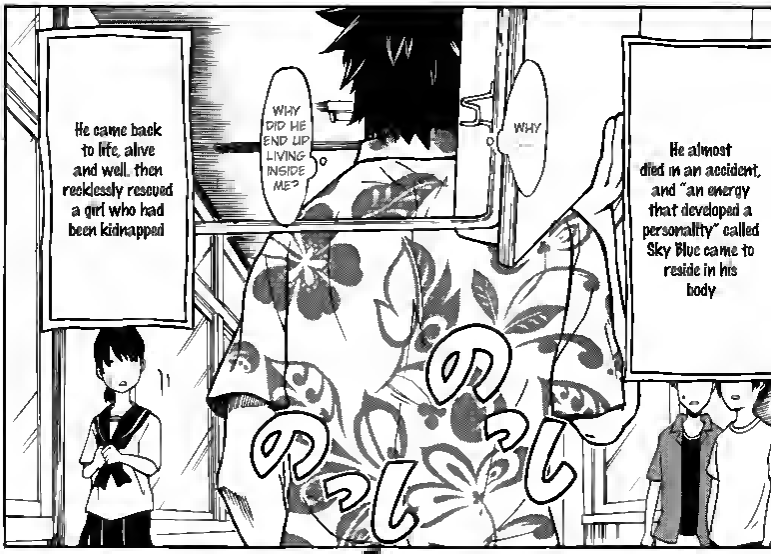
Congratulations.
Congratulations.
Well done.
Congratulations.
Congratulations.
Congratulations.
DON'T MULTIPLY


.....

HUH?
...

Chapter 2
Sky Blue Overdraw

A male high school student who has a face like a gangster and is the type of person who acts without thinking.
Amaharu Kazami-


He came back to life, alive and well, then recklessly rescued a girl who had been kidnapped
WHY DID HE END UP LIVING INSIDE ME?
WHY
He almost died in an accident, and "an energy that developed a personality" called Sky Blue came to reside in his body
のっしのっし

Shut up! Stop chattering inside my head!
Now his life is quite...

HAH! LIKE I CARE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT IN MY LIFE!
BUT...
BUT THERE IS ONE THING I'VE DECIDED.
?
I WON'T FIGHT ALL THE TIME LIKE I DID IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
FROM NOW ON I'M GOING TO BE A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
LET'S GO, ANE-SAN.
SHUT UP
Why are you sneaking around?

NOTE: ANE-SAN IS NORMALLY USED TO ADDRESS A WOMAN WHO IS THE WIFE OF A YAKUZA BOSS

I'M GOING TO DO IT...
IT TOOK US THREE HOURS TO GET HERE FROM OUR HOMETOWN!
WAIT UP!
WE'RE GONNA KILL YOU, KAZAMI!

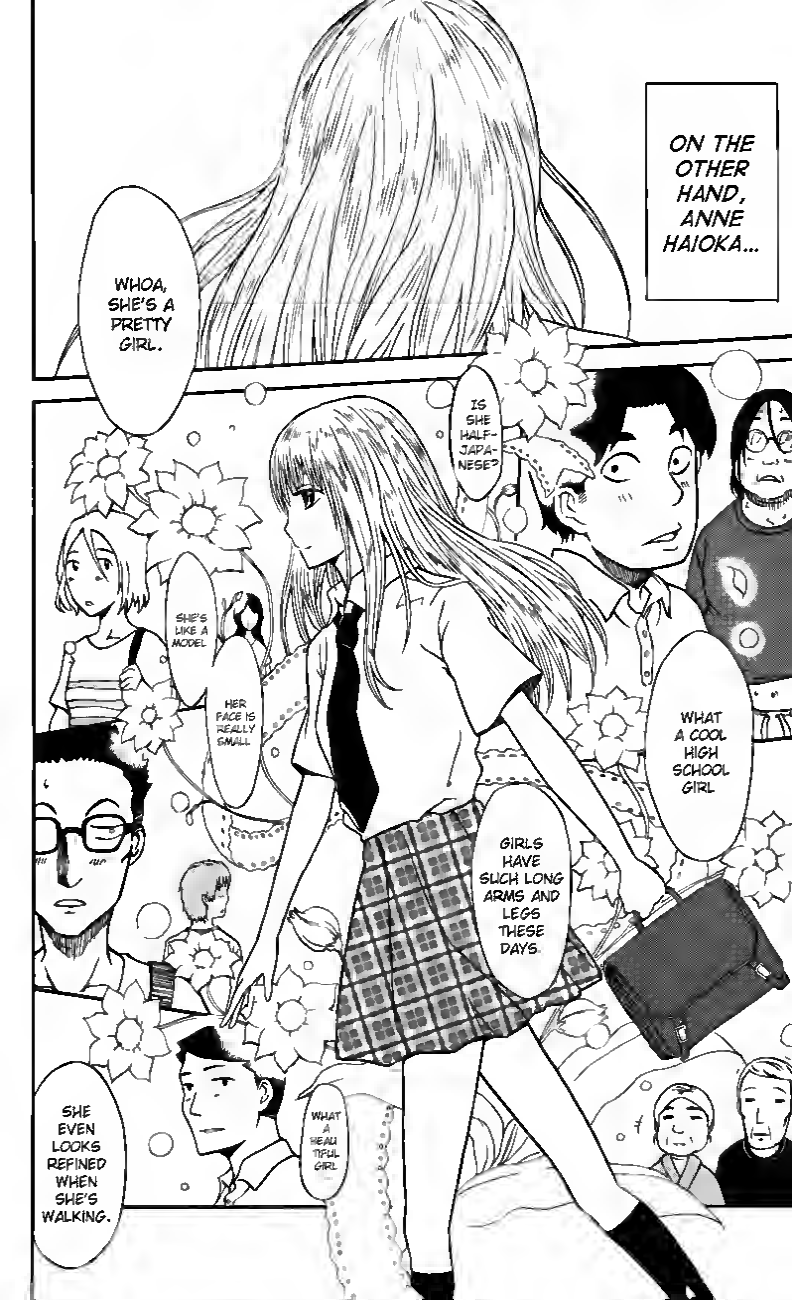
HE WENT INTO A BACKSTREET!
DO YOU WANT TO BE KILLED?!
THERE'S NO WAY I'D BE BEATEN BY THIS MANY PEOPLE!
SHUT UP, YOU DAMN IDIOTS!
YOU BASTARD! YOU'RE JUST RUNNING AWAY!
TCH
HEY!
!!
AH
AH
AH
AH
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, KAZAMI
REMEMBER ME?
I DON'T!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D FORGET ME...

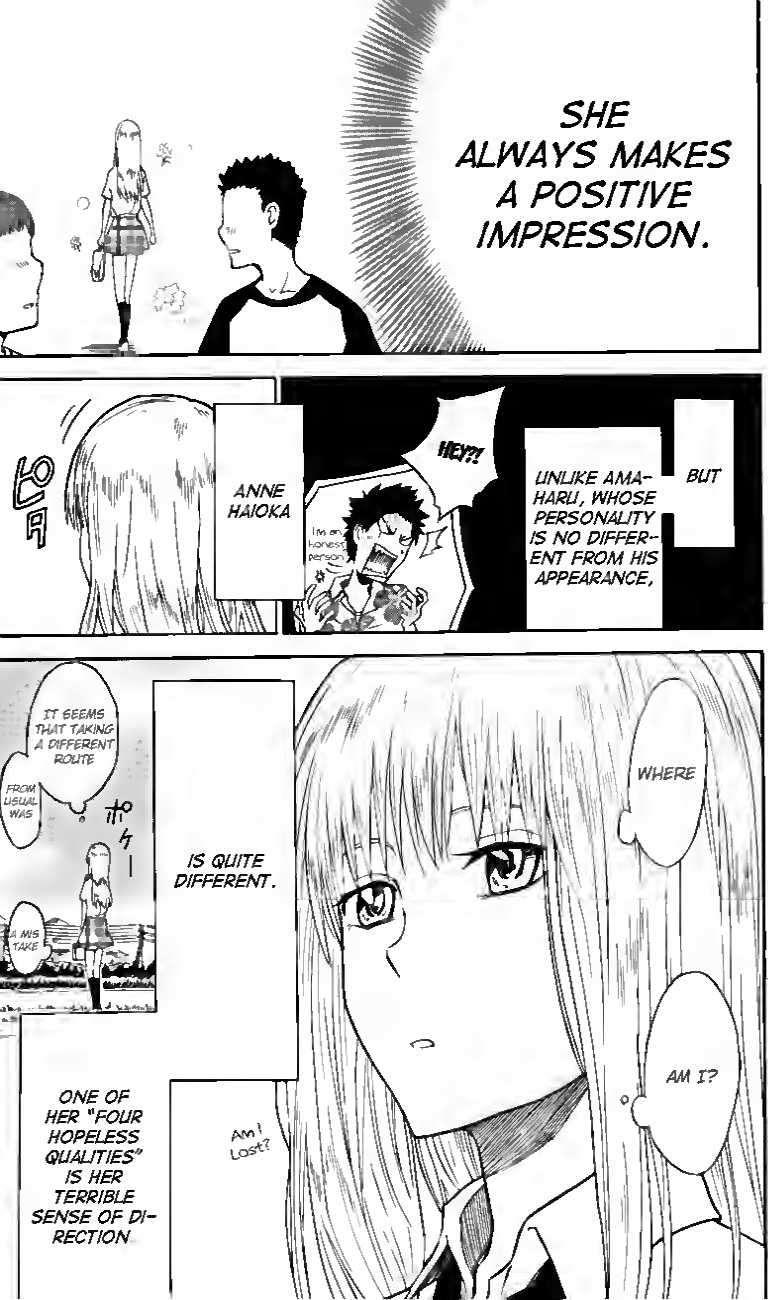
HUHHH?!
No way!
Wait up! It's me, Akuzawa!
I'm from Team Catastrophe. We were defeated by you!
...I SAID ...I DON'T ...!
!?
AS IF I'D REMEMBER STUFF LIKE THAT!
DAMN IT ...I'M TRYING TO BECOME A NORMAL GUY...
A!A!A!

I DON'T CARE! JUST STOP, KAZAMI!
?
TRY AND UNDERSTAND THAT, YOU IDIOTS!
オオオオ
ALL RIGHT
YOU EXPLAIN, AFRO-CHI
IT LOOKS LIKE KAZAMI WAS THE FIRST ONE WHO RAN FAST
LOOK WHO'S TALKING, GAN-CHAN
Hm?
WHO WAS THAT BUNCH OF IDIOTS JUST NOW?
THE SITUATION IS AS YOU CAN SEE
IN OTHER WORDS THEY'RE GANGSTERS FROM KAZAMI'S HOMETOWN HUH?
SOME GUYS WHO HAVE A GRUDGE AGAINST KAZAMI, THE "REAL LIFE COMBAT GAME CHARACTER", HAVE JOINED FORCES IN ORDER TO SETTLE THE SCORE
BUT FOR SOME STRANGE REASON KAZAMI-DONO ISN'T FIGHTING BACK, AND IS RUNNING AWAY INSTEAD.
I'M IMPRESSED THEY CAME THIS FAR
HMM...
AH...
HMM... KAZAMI ISN'T GONNA FIGHT BACK, HUH?

AH...
OH, WELL
くるっ
AH
CAN WE STOP BY TSUTAYA? THERE'S A CD I WANT TO RENT.
HOW PA-THETIC.
THE NUMBER ONE DELIN QUENT AT SCHOOL AND AN HONOR STUDENT.
THEY HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON
THAT IS—
AMAHARU KAZAMI
ANNE HAIOKA

"THEY BOTH HAVE AN IMPRESSIVE APPEARANCE"
FOR EXAMPLE
90% OF A FIRST IMPRESSION IS DECIDED BY SOMEONE'S APPEARANCE
THE FIRST IMPRESSIONS SOMEONE GETS WHEN AMAHARU KAZAMI PASSES BY ARE
GANGSTER
SCARY.
I'M GOING TO BE KILLED
I'M GOING TO BE ATTACKED
PLEASE SPARE MY LIFE!
HE'S A GANGSTER.


ON THE OTHER HAND, ANNE HAIOKA...
WHOA, SHE'S A PRETTY GIRL.
IS SHE HALF-JAPA-NESE?
SHE'S LIKE A MODEL
HER FACE IS REALLY SMALL.
WHAT A COOL HIGH SCHOOL GIRL
GIRLS HAVE SUCH LONG ARMS AND LEGS THESE DAYS.
SHE EVEN LOOKS REFINED WHEN SHE'S WALKING.
WHAT A BEAU-TIFUL GIRL


SHE ALWAYS MAKES A POSITIVE IMPRESSION.
BUT
UNLIKE AMAHARU, WHOSE PERSONALITY IS NO DIFFERENT FROM HIS APPEARANCE,
HEY?!
I'm an honest person.
ANNE HAIOKA
IS QUITE DIFFERENT.
WHERE AM I?
Am I Lost?
ONE OF HER "FOUR HOPELESS QUALITIES" IS HER TERRIBLE SENSE OF DIRECTION
IT SEEMS THAT TAKING A DIFFERENT ROUTE FROM USUAL WAS A MISTAKE

I THINK I'LL
TEXT MY MOM.
SHE MIGHT BE WORRIED.
REALLY?
YOU GUYS ARE USELESS!
THERE'S SO MANY OF YOU! WHY'D YOU RUN AWAY?
ARE YOU EVEN TRYING?!
HUH?!
So... sorry...
WHY WAS THAT GUY WHO'S CRAZY ABOUT FIGHTING RUNNING AWAY ANYWAY?
HAS HE GOT SOME KIND OF WEAKNESS NOW?
JUST FIND KAZAMI!
GO!

HUH?!
DO YOU KNOW
AFFARE-KUN?
I'M A
FRIEND OF
AFFARE-KUN.
WHO ARE YOU?!
Hmm.

I've got the feeling someone is doing something stupid somewhere on earth right now.
Gonta
... THAT KIND OF THING HAPPENS EVERY SECOND
What are you doing?!
You're not drinking it so I'm going to have it
I'll still be the one drinking it anyway!
I'M NOT OUT OF BREATH OR EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT
Whoa, this tastes good.

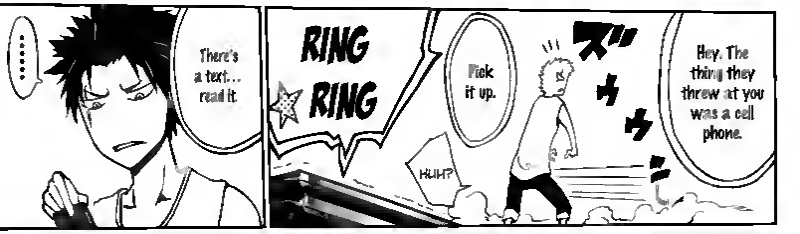
By the way, that juice contains
46 kcal of energy, 11.5 grams of carbohydrates and 5-10 grams of sodium.
Don't you think that's strange?
It's grape-flavored, but it doesn't contain any fruit juice.
I don't care! I don't need your analysis!
Damn it, I'm all sticky.
I think you should wring it out and drink it.
There's no way I can do that!
By the way,
why do you keep running away? Why don't you beat them up?
Do you know the term "self-defense"?
You're not living up to your alias of "Real life Combat Game Character"
Responding without violence doesn't suit you.
JEEZ!
Shut up already!

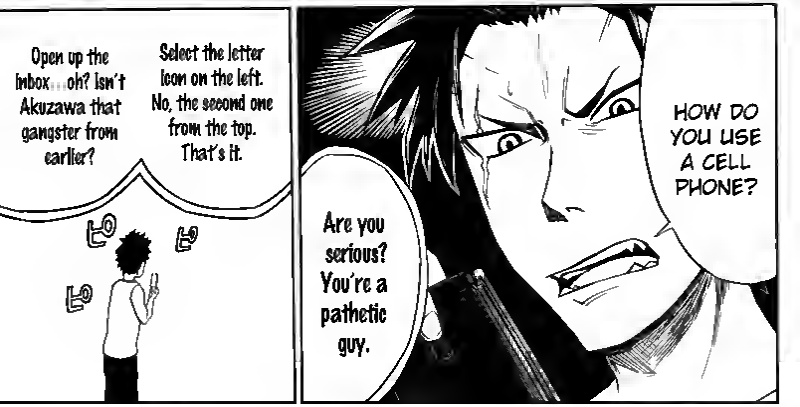
I KNOW
FROM EXPE-RIENCE
AT FIRST...
I JUST HIT ONE GUY WHO ANNOYED ME
THEN HIS FRIENDS CAME ALONG
WHEN I'D BEATEN THEM, I BEAT UP EVEN MORE GUYS RIGHT AFTER THAT
THE MORE PEOPLE I BEAT UP, THE MORE EN-EMIES I MADE
IN THE END...
I REMEM-BERED SOME-ONE I WANTED TO FORGET...
.....

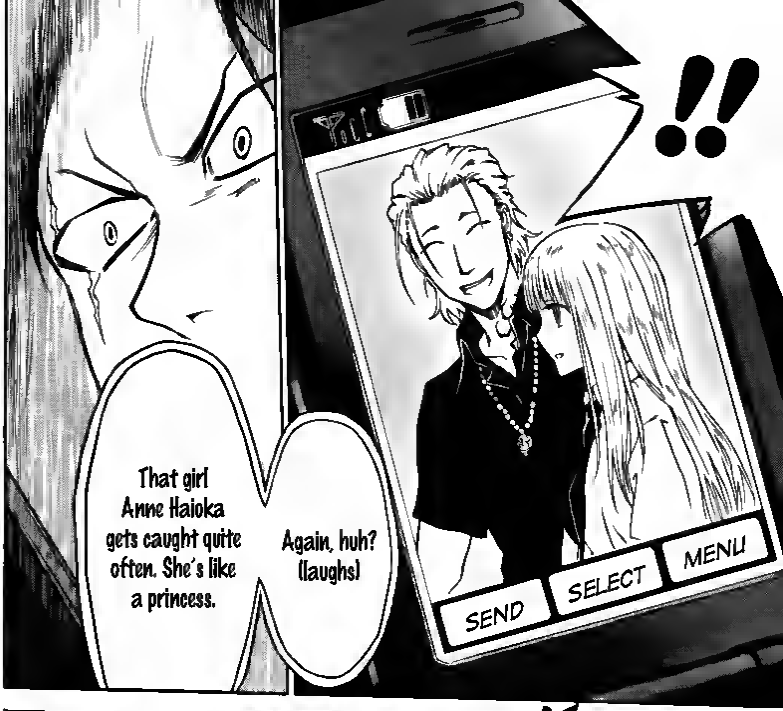
BACK THEN,
I DIDN'T CARE HOW MANY ENEMIES I MADE.
BUT NOW...
NOW THAT I'VE ALMOST DIED TWICE, I WANT TO CHANGE
I DON'T WANT TO TAKE BACK MY WORD ON THAT.
Well, there's something you can do.
But if you don't beat them up, they'll keep on chasing you.
Damn it...
What should I do?

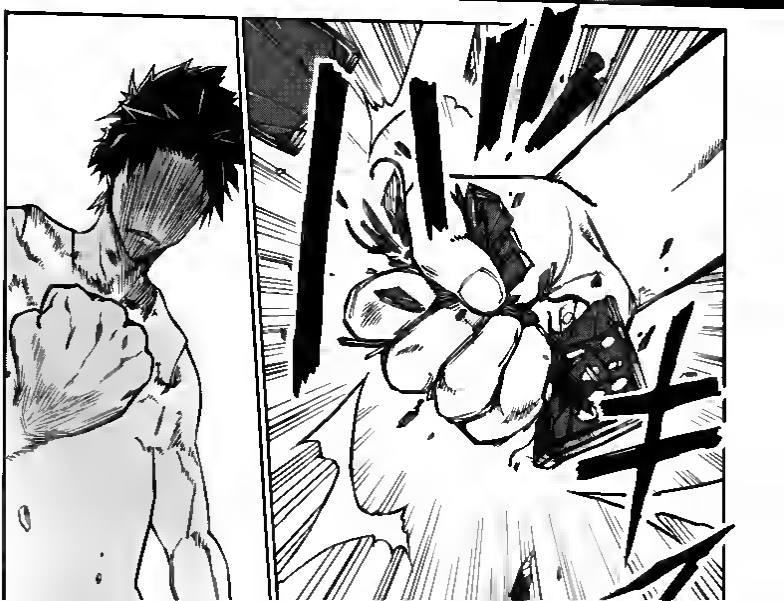
I want this place to be sunny.
It's all right for you to do as you wish.
As long as things don't get too dangerous I won't interrupt.
Oh, is that so? I'd like you to keep quiet forever if possible.
Try to become a serious and normal high school student
Hah..
You don't need to tell me
ARE YOU O-
We left him!
All right!
HEY...
that.

WAAH?
Your anger is like a reflex now.
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU IDIOTS!
WAIT, DAMN IT!


There's a text... read it.
RING RING
Pick it up.
HUH?
Hey. The thing they threw at you was a cell phone.


Open up the inbox... oh? Isn't Akuzawa that gangster from earlier?
Select the letter icon on the left. No, the second one from the top. That's it.
HOW DO YOU USE A CELL PHONE?
Are you serious? You're a pathetic guy.


!!
That girl Anne Haioka gets caught quite often. She's like a princess.
Again, huh? (laughs)
SEND
SELECT
MENU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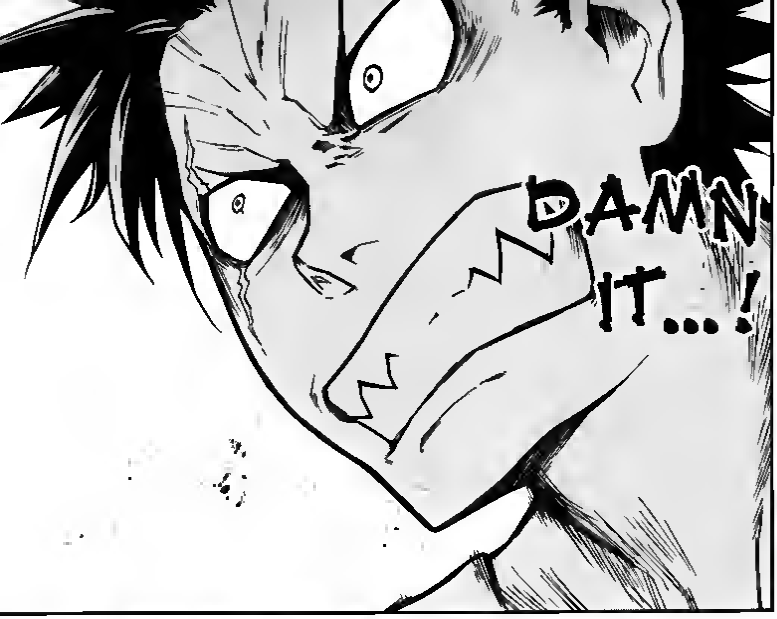
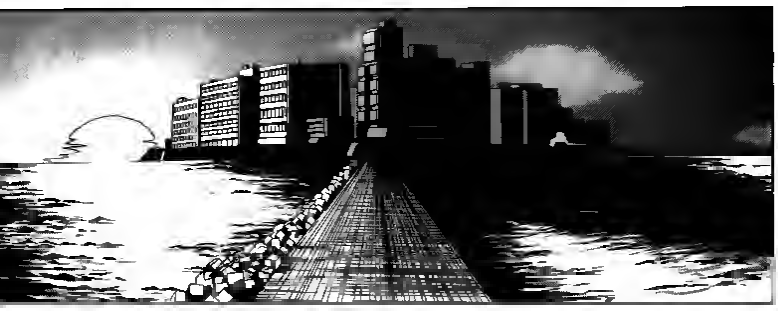

DAMN
IT...!



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!?
WHERE IS SHE?!
YOU GOT HERE PRETTY QUICKLY
OH!

WELL, THIS IS A SURPRISE THOUGH. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH A GIRL...
DO... DON'T GET SO IMPATIENT! WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING. SHE'S JUST WAITING SOMEWHERE ELSE.
WHERE IS SHE?
Hey, you! Stop!
Hey, someone stop him!
So let's put a stop to this, all right?
Calm down!
I won't do anything if you listen to what I say!

THIS IS THE WORST!
GYAAAH!
THIS IS THE WORST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN!

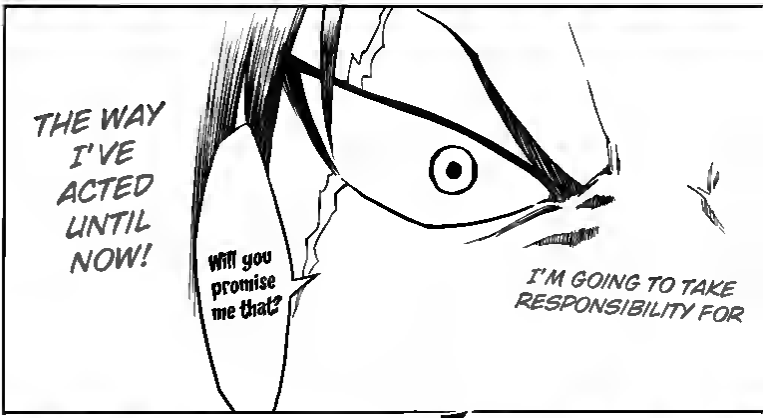
IT REALLY MAKES ME ANGRY!
I WANT TO BEAT THEM ALL TO DEATH AND PUT AN END TO THIS RIGHT NOW!
SHE GOT INVOLVED IN THIS!
BECAUSE I'M ALWAYS DOING STUPID THINGS,
Hey! No way! We've got a hostage, all right?!
Aren't you in love with that girl?
SO...
Waah...

I'M NOT GOING TO BEAT YOU UP.

...WHAT ARE YOUR CONDITIONS?
UNTIL NOW, I WOULD HAVE ACTED VIOLENTLY WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES.
WE REALLY HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING! SHE'S JUST WAITING THERE!
IT'S NOT THAT FAR! IT'S THAT BUILDING YOU CAN SEE FROM HERE!
HUH?
WHERE IS SHE?

You... you...
You'll let us beat you up without fighting back!
We'll let the girl go if you don't fight back!
ALL RIGHT.
SO...
!
I ACCEPT!
I WON'T RELY ON VIOLENCE HERE AND NOW!
BUT I'VE GOT MY OWN CONDI-TIONS TOO.
IF I LET YOU HIT ME AND I STAY STANDING UNTIL THE END,
SO THAT I WON'T BE LYING WHEN I SAY THAT I WANT TO CHANGE,

PROMISE THAT YOU WON'T GET INVOLVED IN MY LIFE
FROM NOW ON!


THE WAY I'VE ACTED UNTIL NOW!
Will you promise me that?
I'M GOING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR

.....
ZOO
Let go of me!
I PROMISE...! SO...
HEHE...I UNDERSTAND. I PROMISE.

HEHE
THAT HURT, YOU BAS-TARD
お
Get him!
お
He really isn't fight-ing back!
お
Honestly... you're so troublesome.
That hurts.
That hurts.
That hurts.
That hurts.
That hurts. That hurts.
I'm telling you that it hurts.

RING
HUH?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
DID YOU GET A SUSPICIOUS TEXT OR SOMETHING?

IT'S FROM KAZAMI.
Are you serious? When did you get his number?
I DION T! THIS IS A COMPLETE SURPRISE!
ANYWAY, JUST OPEN IT

.....
Beep

HOW MUCH HAVE WE PUNCHED THIS GUY?
huff
huff
huff

HUFF
Why hasn't he collapsed...?
UH...
HUFF

ARE YOU DONE?

I'm gonna kill you, Kazami!
Damn it! You're underestimating me!
BUT I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
I WON'T DIE. I'LL BE OKAY, EVEN IF I GET SHOT.
YOU'RE CRAZY...
A LOT OF PAIN!
I CAN TAKE

めっこり

Aku-zawa-san!
ズル
ズル
But I don't want to take any more of this.

Huh? What's going on?!
You let yourself get hit without fighting back! Are you an idiot? Anyway, answer the phone!
You bastard...! Don't get in my way!

Rewrote... what are you talking about?!
That's good. Now you're a little closer to becoming a normal high school student.
I rewrote a few things, so it's yours now.
The phone belongs to that nobody who looks half-dead.
Come on, answer the phone.
HELLO? HELLO? IS THAT YOU, KAZAMI?
YOU...!
HEY, YOU WHAT DO YOU WANT?
HUH?
HEY! ARE YOU ALIVE, KAZAM-ICCHI?
WHOA...HE REALLY DID PICK UP.

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING. YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SENT ME A MESSAGE.
!?
DID YOU EXCHANGE NUMBERS BY INFRARED WITHOUT ME KNOWING? THAT'S CREEPY.
INFRA...?
OH, WELL WE FOUND ANNE-SAN AT THE PLACE YOU MENTIONED IN YOUR MESSAGE
!!
IS SHE OKAY?!
YOU'RE SO LOUD! OF COURSE SHE'S OKAY.
I'm glad it's easy to do things like invade people's privacy.
SE-LECT-ING A TILE
A WINNING HAND.

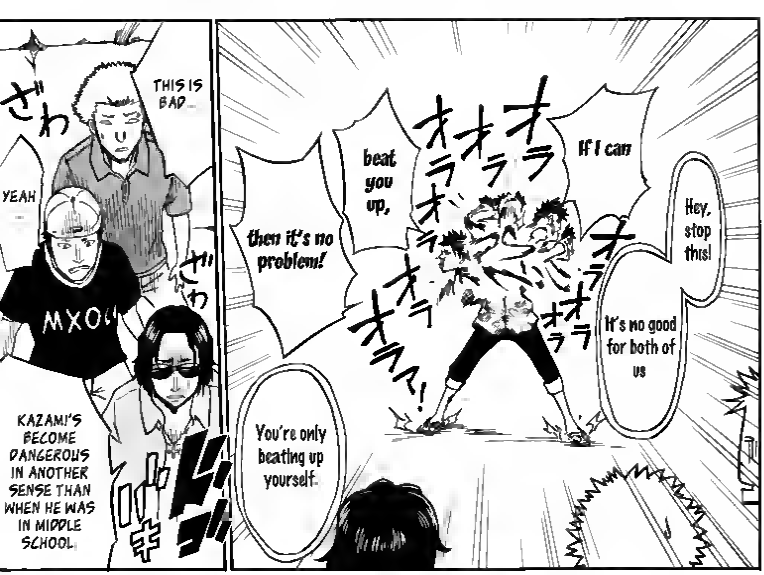
Did you want something from him?
Hmm... Hmm? I'm sure he's not
DID
APPARE-KUN SAY WHERE HE IS?
THEY SAID SO
THEY WANT TO SORT THINGS OUT
WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH HIM AGAIN
NOT ME
THESE PEOPLE
MISTAKE?
WELL, YOU SEE
HAVE I
MADE SOME KIND OF

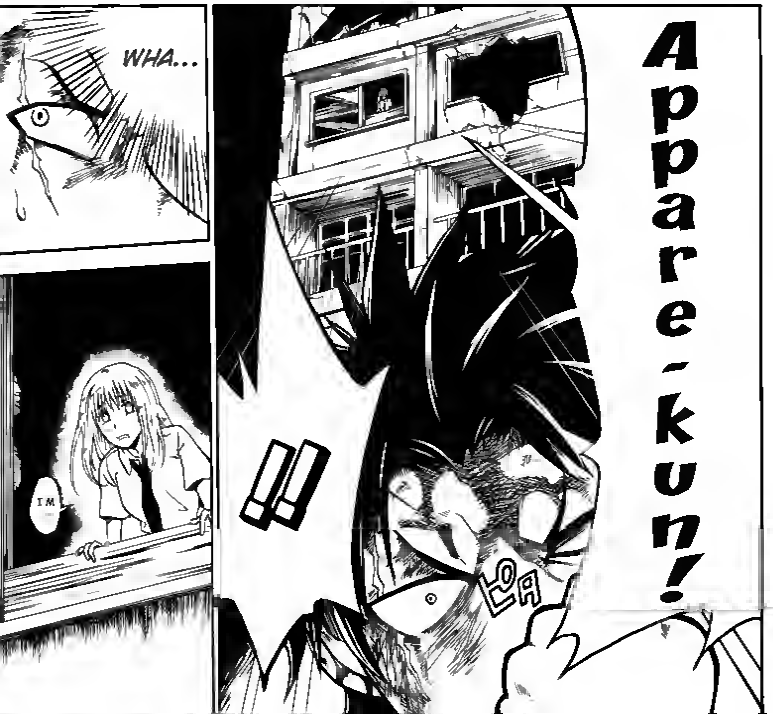
どーーーん
Thanks to my fine play.
the reason for you to put up with this has disappeared.
That's enough now, Amaharu.
You can beat them to death now.
Eek!

What are you doing?
Hey. Forget about what just happened! I'm not going to lay another hand on you!
So don't be so scared.
Are you crazy?
...Shut up.
Hey, Amaharu.
Shut up!
I'll only acknowledge that you made sure Anne was safe!

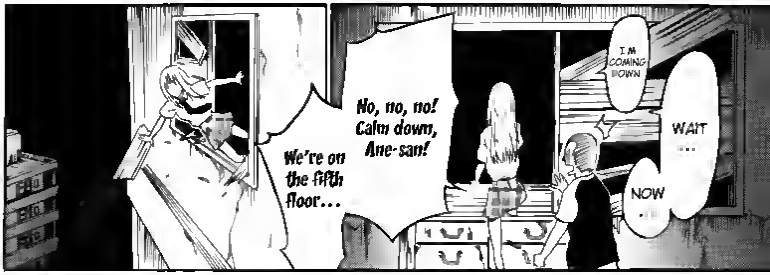
POKE
Don't say anything more!
GYAAA
You...you bastard! You poked your own eyes!
Stop doing things to hurt yourself.
I don't want to hear that from you...
Listen, Amaharu.
When you're hurt, so am I!

So stop this meaningless battle to endure pain.
It was only exciting the first time.
To be honest, I'm tired of getting hurt.
...Hehehe. I see, now I know how to attack you.
What are you talking about? How are you going to attack...?
Hahaha!
Heh.
Whenever you do something annoying from now on,
I just have to punch myself?
SHUT UP!
Gah!
You're such an idiot.


ざわ
THIS IS BAD...
YEAH
MXO(
ざわ
KAZAMI'S BECOME DANGEROUS IN ANOTHER SENSE THAN WHEN HE WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
ドドド
Hey, stop this!
It's no good for both of us
If I can
beat you up,
then it's no problem!
You're only beating up yourself.
オラオラオラ
オラオラオラ
オラオラオラ
オラオラオラ!

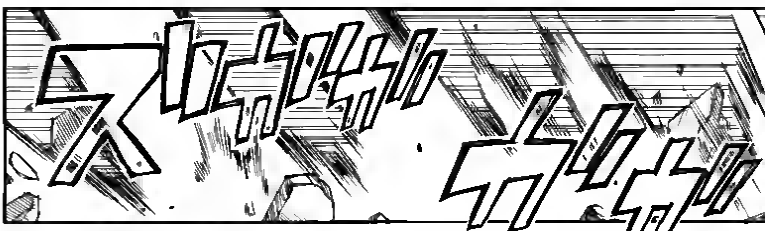

Appare-kun!
WHA...
I'M...
!!
ピカ

I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY.
BE-CAUSE...
BECAUSE I HAVE A BAD SENSE OF DIRECTION...
I'M SORRY
I'LL FIX THINGS
I don't know what she's trying to say, but this seems to be your fault
She's upset because you did something to hurt yourself
Shut up...


I'M COMING DOWN
WAIT...
NOW...
No, no, no! Calm down, Ane-san!
We're on the fifth floor...

AH...
Huh?!
AH.

DAMN IT!
I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT.
You idiot!
You might.


スロロロロロ
スロロロロ

ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
What was that?!
Wha...

どーん
You're hurt!
THANK YOU
AH
AH
I'M
I'M SORRY

I GOT BEATEN UP LIKE THIS TODAY!
IT WAS MY OWN FAULT THAT
!
Don't apologize.
I WANTED TO BEAT MYSELF UP FOR HOW I'D BEEN ACTING UNTIL NOW.
.....
Hey! Why am I being confrontational like this?!
I should be kind when I talk...
I UNDERSTAND
IT WAS MY OWN CHOICE!
FOR YOU TO APOLOGIZE! DON'T BE SO CONCEITED!
IT'S RIDICULOUS

I THINK THAT
I UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU SAID,
Whoa!
BUT I REALLY DON'T WANT YOU TO OVERDO THINGS
IS A PAINFUL THING
SAY WHEN YOU'RE HURT
I THINK THAT NOT BEING ABLE TO
YEAH
I KNOW
I KNOW THAT AL-READY

APPARE-KUN.
HEHEHE. KAZAMI~

IT'S NOTHING
Hahaha! This is what happens when you underestimate me!
!?
You bastard! What did you do?!
He... hey!
I just put her to sleep.
I know

you wouldn't want her to see this, right?
HAH.
SO YOU DO UNDERSTAND.
Yes, I do.
Because I'm here.

I experienced all the pain
you felt today.
Your actions were difficult to understand,
but I'll acknowledge that you had the courage
He got up?!
Wha...
to endure all the pain you've felt so far.
HAH.
I DON'T FEEL HAPPY ABOUT BEING ACKNOWLEDGED BY YOU.
SO WILL YOU STAY WITH ME FOR ONE LAST REALLY PAINFUL EXPERIENCE?
I'd prefer not to, but I suppose I don't have a choice.
You've gotta be kidding! How come you're okay?!
Huh?

I'm not okay, you damn idiot!
Exactly!
Eeeeeek
...
Eek
...

Now that you realize that...
Amaharu...
SO YOU'RE THE REASON I'VE BEEN USING TOO MUCH STRENGTH RECENTLY.
TCH
You guys ...
Don't just stand there! Get him! Hey!
Why are you so far away??
I've got an idea
to deal with this situation.
SO DO I.

What happened to our promise?!
Hey! You're going to beat me up?!
Damn it!
Eek!
Ahh!
Damn! Stay away from me!
There's no reason to punish him anymore.
I'm not going to beat you up!
IS THAT SO?
BUT ...!
Next time I'll bring even more people! There are plenty of guys with a grudge against you!
Do it! I'll come back to you again and again!

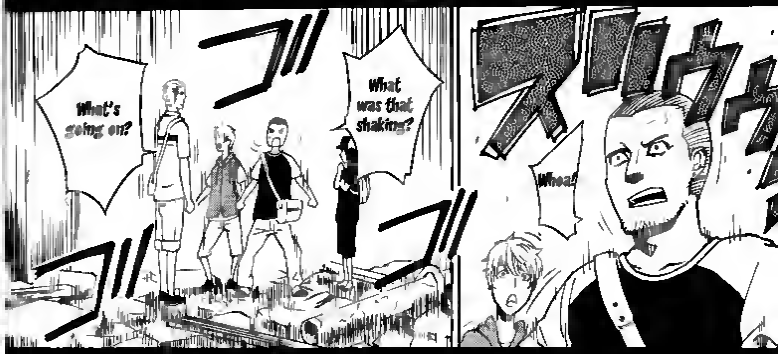
IF I BREAK THIS WALL RIGHT HERE,
You...
WILL YOU STILL FEEL LIKE CHALLENGING ME?

THIS IS JUST AS I EXPECTED...
NO...

You don't have to do it that power-fully.

Huh!?
Hey, you've gotta be kidding.
Damn it...
I am an idiot.

DELAYING THINKING ABOUT THINGS WAS NO GOOD.



HIS ABILITY, WHICH HEALED ME WHEN I WAS ALMOST DEAD, DIDN'T LEAVE A SCAR.

HIS ABILITY CAN DESTROY A WAREHOUSE AND MAKE A BUILDING COLLAPSE WITH ONE HIT.

IT WAS TERRIBLE OF HIM TO INVADE MY PRIVACY BY LIVING IN MY BODY.

WHAT ON EARTH IS SKY BLUE?

What on earth ...
Uh ...
What is this....

UHHH ...
THE PEOPLE IN THAT CELL WERE THE GROUP OF FIVE MEN INVOLVED IN THAT KIDNAPPING INCIDENT THE OTHER DAY
THERE'S NO SIGN OF ANYONE HAVING ENTERED THE PRISON.
IT DOESN'T MATTER
HOW THEY GOT IN.
How did a person
get torn to pieces like that?
It seems that Blue used a great power once again.

I SEE ...
NOW THAT WE'RE DONE SORTING THINGS OUT,
HOW ABOUT WE GO AND SAY HELLO TO HIM?
HAIJI I WILL ALWAYS CONSIDER YOUR WISH THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE THEIR ABILITY SKILL FULLY.
DON'T WORRY.
OUR ABILITY
IS STRON-GER.